



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



In New York, prices were unchanged. Elsewhere, weekly prices were higher on the larger sizes and unchanged on medium eggs. Trade sentiment ranged steady to firm with the larger sizes remaining in the strongest position. Retail and distributive demand was light to good, slightly better in locations where features were a factor. Supplies of the heavy weights were tight to sufficient, but medium eggs were in an adequate to available position. Breaking stock offerings were balanced to fully sufficient and demand was noted as fair to fairly good. Spent hens were more than adequate for processing schedules that were reported as normal.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

MIDWEST REGIONAL Midwest warehouse delivered prices were slightly higher for the larger sizes. Other reported prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm. Retail demand was moderate to good. Food service movement was moderate to at times fairly good. Supplies were adequate to close. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged to higher with checks and undergrades unchanged. Offerings were adequate to barely adequate and held with confidence. Supplies were balanced to adequate. Schedules full-time to over-time. Trade sentiment steady to fully steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	60-69	64-66
LARGE	60-68	62-65
MEDIUM	50-56	53-55

IA-MN-WI - Prices paid to producers.			
	RANGE	MOSTLY	
LARGE	43-50	45	
MEDIUM	33-37	35	
SMALL	19-21		

MIDWEST AREA: IA, IL, IN, KY, MI, MN, OH, NE, ND, SD, WI, WV, Western NY, and West-
ern PA

NORTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were higher on the larger sizes, but unchanged on medium eggs when compared to previous week's prices. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady entering the week. Demand ranged moderate to fairly good. Supplies ranged adequate to available for immediate trade needs. Breaking stock offerings were adequate to fully adequate for the fair to fairly good demand. Schedules were noted as mostly normal to heavy. Spent hens were more than sufficient for normal processing schedules.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	67-81	67-71
LARGE	61-75	66-70
MEDIUM	51-64	56-58

NORTHEAST AREA: CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, eastern NJ, eastern NY, PA, RI, Northern VA, and VT

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL Prices were unchanged to slightly higher for the larger sizes. Trade sentiment was fully steady to firm. Retail demand was moderate to good. Food service movement was moderate to fairly good. Supplies were adequate to tight. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged to higher with checks and undergrades unchanged. Offerings were adequate to barely adequate and held with confidence. Supplies were balanced to adequate. Schedules full-time to over-time. Trade sentiment steady to fully steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	65.5-75	68-71
LARGE	62.5-71	64-67
MEDIUM	54.5-63	56-59

SOUTH CENTRAL AREA: AR, AZ, CO, KS, LA, MO, NM, OK, and TX

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were higher on the larger sizes and unchanged on mediums when compared to last week's prices. Trade sentiment was in a full range of steady to firm. Retail demand ranged light to occasionally good. Supplies were well balanced to available for current trade requirements. Breaking stock offerings were adequate for the fair to fairly good demand. Light type hens were more than sufficient for normal processing schedules.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	65-74	68-71
LARGE	61.25-72	66-69
MEDIUM	53.5-61	54-58

SOUTHEAST AREA: AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, eastern TN, and southern VA

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

NEW YORK Prices were unchanged entering the week. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady on heavier weights, however steady on mediums. Demand was moderate to fairly good. Supplies were sufficient for current needs.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	75-79
LARGE	73-77
MEDIUM	63-67

CHICAGO & MIDWEST EGGS Prices for larger sizes increased 5 cents, lighter weights were unchanged. The market tone was fully steady to firm. Retail and food service demand was moderate, instances good where features are a factor. Supplies are mixed, larger sizes balanced, lighter weights available.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	66-74	68-70
LARGE	65-73	66-69
MEDIUM	55-64	58-60

see page 3 for prices on certified organic eggs in cartons

WESTERN Prices throughout the region 5 cents higher on jumbo, extra large and large; unchanged on medium. The Pacific region inventory was 8% higher than last Monday with California up 7% and Oregon-Washington-Utah up 11%. Retailer demand moderate to fairly good. Offerings lighter.

CALIFORNIA Prices 5 cents higher on jumbo, extra large, and large, unchanged on medium and small. The California inventory was 7% higher than last Monday. Retailer demand improved. Offerings in good balance. Small benchmark price 70. Ads in Northern California: major- large dozen buy 1 get 1 free.

California Egg Marketing Association and other marketers benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

	RANGE
JUMBO	117
EXTRA LARGE	108
LARGE	100
MEDIUM	90

PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA		NORTHERN CALIFORNIA	
	RANGE		RANGE
JUMBO	279-349	JUMBO	279-379
EXTRA LARGE	219-309	EXTRA LARGE	219-399
LARGE	199-239	LARGE	239-329
MEDIUM	199-205	MEDIUM	169-299

NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES REPORT Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending May 28, 2004 will decrease by 1 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending May 21, 2004 were 199,476 cases which was 12 percent below the prior week and 4 percent below estimates.

	CARTONED	LOOSE	TOTAL
Cases purchased present week.....	165,905	33,571	199,476

% change from the prior week.....	-12	-9	-12

Comparison figures are compiled on a matched plant basis. Purchases and estimates by 14 cooperators; 30 dozen cases or equivalent.

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK Breaking stock prices ranged unchanged to higher with checks and undergrades unchanged. Offerings were adequate to barely adequate and held with confidence. Supplies were balanced to adequate. Schedules full-time or longer as Memorial Day approaches. Trade sentiment steady to fully steady.

PRICES PAID TO 11:00 AM, MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	46-48	
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	32-38	32-34
CENTRAL STATES AREA:		
AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI		

SOUTHEAST LIVE HEAVY HEN Majority prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate for adequate to at least adequate offerings. Processing schedules were normal. Supplies of finished product were well cleared. The undertone was steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)*

Final Price, generally for slaughter the week of 24-MAY-04

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6.25-10.25 CENTS/LB.	9-9.5	9.27
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT		

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Prices were slightly higher compared to the past week. Demand was moderate for adequate offerings of heavy fowl. Finished sales were fair. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was steady to full steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)*

Final Price, generally for slaughter the week of 24-MAY-04

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6.5-12.5 CENTS/LB.	9-9.75	9.89

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT-MAY 24, 2004

STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/ 2/
(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		No Cent	So Cent	So Atl	5-Area Pacific	
Jumbo	Curr Wk	9.4	14.0	6.0	11.9	50.6
	Change	0.3	1.5	1.1	-0.5	2%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	26.1	36.5	11.8	20.5	126.5
	Change	-0.2	-3.9	-0.9	-0.2	-5%
Large	Curr Wk	49.9	104.6	52.2	100.5	413.2
	Change	7.5	-2.7	0.6	17.7	9%
Medium	Curr Wk	18.2	47.6	18.7	24.3	142.9
	Change	1.5	4.3	2.3	-2.1	5%
Small	Curr Wk	7.3	10.4	2.1	4.9	38.5
	Change	1.5	1.3	-0.3	-0.9	23%
Misc	Curr Wk	4.8	22.2	9.9	11.7	54.3
	Change	-0.8	0.2	-2.1	-1.1	-5%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	19.2	55.2	29.2	31.8	158.6
	Change	7.1	-4.8	5.3	2.8	7%
Total	Curr Wk	134.9	290.5	129.9	205.6	984.6
Percent	Change	14%	-1%	5%	8%	5%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
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Shell Egg	984.6	5%	170
Shell Egg Breaking Stock 2/	243.5	-5%	35

Total Shell Egg	1228.1	3%	205
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1/Information is supplied by a universe of 170 cooperators who normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and is on the basis of matched plants reporting in both the current and previous weeks. Sample does not represent total U.S. inventory but includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers.

No valid comparison can be made with year ago or previous months' figures due to changes in number of plants surveyed, holidays falling in different weeks or changes in size of plant operations.

Northeast- CT, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT

North Central- IA, IL, IN, MI, MN, ND, NE, OH, SD, WI

South Central- AR, CO, KS, LA, MO, NM, OK, TX

CANADIAN EGGS QUEBEC MONTRÉAL SOUTHERN ONTARIO
FOUR GRADES (A, B, C, D) DOLLARS PER DOZEN

FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 10, 2004

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
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MINIMUM PRODUCER PRICES (DOLLARS PER DOZEN) FOB FARM FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING MAY 10, 2004 AS ESTABLISHED BY ONTARIO EGG AND FOWL PRODUCERS MARKETING BOARD.

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	1.54	1.54	1.44	.77

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — DAILY WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR MAY 21, 2004

CURRENT LOADS								12.00	FUTURE LOADS								13.75	TOTAL LOADS								25.75
		SE		NE		MW		LOADS			SC		NW		SW		LOADS									
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST			CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST											
GNR W 1	50.00	53.00	48.50	51.44	—	—	6.50		GL W LG	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3.50									
GNR W 3	—	—	—	—	39.00	42.00	1.00		NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00									
GL W XL	—	—	59.00	61.00	57.00	—	5.25																			
GL W LG	—	—	—	—	—	59.00	6.50																			
GL W SM	—	—	35.00	36.25	—	—	.50																			
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	—	—	4.00																			
NRBS - 39	—	—	—	—	40.50	42.00	1.00																			

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 05/17/04-05/21/04

CURRENT LOADS								FUTURE LOADS								TOTAL LOADS							
69.75								64.00								133.75							
SE				NE		MW		LOADS	SC				NW		SW		LOADS						
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	CLASS		ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST									
GNR W 1	48.40	53.00	46.30	48.70	49.00	51.50	20.50	GL W J	—	—	—	86.50	—	—	—	1.00							
GNR W 2	—	51.00	—	—	—	—	1.00	GL W XL	59.50	64.50	—	70.00	—	66.38	6.75								
GNR W 3	—	—	—	—	39.00	42.00	1.00	GL W LG	55.00	60.00	—	67.00	65.75	65.91	19.50								
GNR W 4	—	36.50	—	—	—	—	1.00	GL W MD	47.00	47.00	—	54.00	50.00	52.92	5.00								
GL W J	—	—	66.00	64.50	67.00	—	3.00	GL BR XL	60.00	—	—	—	—	—	.50								
GL W XL	—	60.67	55.71	58.22	56.33	—	36.25	GL BR LG	60.00	—	—	—	—	—	.75								
GL W LG	—	55.73	51.56	53.80	54.67	55.10	37.75	NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	—	—	3.00								
GL W MD	48.13	—	44.00	48.00	41.92	45.00	18.25																
GL W SM	—	—	34.78	36.86	32.00	34.50	5.50																
GL BR XL	—	—	—	—	—	—	.50																
GL BR LG	—	—	—	—	—	—	.75																
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	49.00	46.46	41.00																
NRBS - 45	—	—	—	—	—	44.00	4.00																
NRBS - 39	—	—	—	—	40.50	42.00	1.00																

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT - MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED.

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT-FROZEN EGGS (In Thousands)

ON HAND	05/17/04	05/10/04	05/19/03
PACIFIC COAST	538	505	95
LOS ANGELES	485	450	51

NORTH CAROLINA EGGS The market is higher on the larger sizes, steady on the balance. The supply is adequate. Retail demand is moderate.

PRICES WEIGHTED AVERAGE, IN SMALL LOTS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, NEARBY RETAIL OUTLET, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	86.63
LARGE	82.63
MEDIUM	71.63
SMALL	59.00

CERTIFIED ORGANIC EGGS IN CARTONS

(price per carton delivered to first receivers)

Brown Eggs	CENTS/CARTON	MOSTLY
Extra Large doz.	222 – 250	225 – 240
1/2 doz.	123 – 151	125 – 134
Large doz.	200 – 250	217 – 227
1/2 doz.	120 – 142	128 – 133

USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS.**POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

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	Fax	(601)965-4661	(Southern States Area Supervisor)
Des Moines, IA	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins
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Los Angeles, CA	Voice	(213)534-1330	Jim Derby
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OUT OF STATE EGGS - STATE COMPILATION

Report Date: 5/19/2004

Report Period: 4/25/2004 - 5/1/2004

State	Number Cases Shipped To Northern CA	Number Cases Shipped To Central CA	Number Cases Shipped To Southern CA	Total State
Arizona	0	0	2,939	2,939
Arkansas	0	0	822	822
Colorado	0	0	5,927	5,927
Indiana	0	0	780	780
Iowa	7,600	5,490	46,481	59,571
Michigan	0	0	1,800	1,800
Minnesota	2,910	580	4,800	8,290
Missouri	0	0	720	720
Montana	0	0	806	806
Nevada	0	0	540	540
New Hampshire	0	0	830	830
Ohio	0	0	3,388	3,388
Oregon	1,979	845	0	2,824
South Dakota	510	624	1,380	2,514
Texas	0	0	11,902	11,902
Utah	770	810	9,614	11,194
TOTAL	13,769	8,349	92,729	114,847
SHIPPED TO MILITARY	0	0	0	0
SHIPPED TO NONMILITARY	13,769	8,349	92,729	114,847